law abroad or are likely to corne, under the same;

(b) whether the usage of these seeds in India is. affected by patent law envisaged under. GATT treaty;

(c) the time duration,, of patents for seeds, plants, etc. related to agriculture under GATT;

(d) whether cultivation and transaction of patented seeds amongst farmers is permitted under GATT;

(e) whether non-farmer's transactions, as done by seed corporations, commercial firms would be subjected to patent law under GATT ; and

(f) what is the annual turnover of various type of seeds through traditional fanner channel and commercial channels ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Information, on, seeds which are under patents in accordance with the patent laws of foreign countries is. not available since the Indian parents Act does not provide for patenting of seeds.

(b) to (e) There is no obligation to provide for patenting of seeds in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round. In respect of the option of effective sui generis system for protection of.pJant varieties no details have been spelt out. It is left to each country to design; its plant variety protection law to suit. its. national requirements. The Agreement does not prohibit Members from providing for the traditional rights of farmers to save, use and exchange seed. Non-farmer transactions in case of protected varieties of seeds would be subject to the conditions governing such transactions in the.law that we may enact.

(f) As. Government does not maintain information regarding traditional exchanges or regarding private companies transaction, this information is not available.

राजस्थान से हीरे के निर्यात के लिये सुविधाएं

1925. चौधरी हरिसिंह : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान हीरे के निर्यात के लिये राजस्थान में हीरा उद्योग को क्या-क्या सुविधाएं दी गई हैं;

(ख) क्या सरकार का हीरा व्यापार के संवर्धन के लिये जयपुर में हीरा उद्योग परिसर स्थापित करने का विचार है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी) :

(क) सरकार ने देश भर के सभी हीरा निर्यातकों को एक जैसी सुविधाएं दे रखी है और आयात-निर्यात नीति में इनका उल्लेख किया गया है । इसीलिए, राजस्थान सहित किसी भी राज्य के हीरा-निर्यातकों को कोई विशेष सुविधा नहीं दी जाती है ।

(ख) जयपुर में हीरा उद्योग परिसर की स्थापना का सरकार के पास कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Merger of TFAI and TDAI

1926. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to merger the Trade Fair Authority of India and the Trade Development Authority of India into a single organisation;

(b) whether this decision has been implemented ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER; OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) The, erstwhile Trade Development Authority

has been already merged with erstwhile Trade Fair Authority of India with effect from 1st January, 1992 under the name of India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO).

Simplifying procedures 16 promote Export

1927. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Govern ment have simplified the procedures to promote export of items ;

(b) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, and

(c) what steps Government propose to fake in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) Review & simplification of the procedures relating to imports and exports is a continuous process and changes are made as and when considered necessary in public interest.

Action Plan for Boosting Exports in View of Dunkel Proposals

1928. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what 'action plon has been drawn for boosting agricultural exports ft view of the Dunkel Proposals ;

(b) if not, whether Goverament is contemplating some action plan to boost agriculture exports;

(c) whether the State Governments will be taken into confidence while formulating this plan; and

(d) the reasons for banning exports of many agriculture produce in this area of export promot'on and liberalisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMA-LUDDltN AHMED) : (a) to (d) GATT Agreement on Agriculture is beneficial to India as it will provide increased market access to our agricultral commodities in other parts of the world.

Government attaches great importance to the export of agricultural commodities and has, therefore, been giving a special thruse in this area. It is however, the policy of the Government to allow export of items of mass consumption only in a manner which does not compromise our food security system. With this objective in view, Government prescribes, Minimim Export Price (MEP) and/or quantative ceilings in respect of wheat, coarse grains, sugar, mustard seed and rapeseed.

While finalising the Agriculture Policy Resolution, the Ministry of Agriculture has consulted the State Governments. This Resolution also recognises the potential and importance of export of agricultural commodities.

आयात तथा निर्यात में संतुलन

1929. **डा० जिनेन्द्र कुमार जैन :**

श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 8 फरवरी, 1994 के "फाइनेंशियल एक्सप्रेस" में "इंडिया इन दि वर्ल्ड ऑफ ट्रेड" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि देश के निर्यात तथा आयात में कोई संतुलन नहीं है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि देश का आयात निर्यात से अधिक है;

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ङ) क्या सरकार इस निष्कर्ष पर पहुंची है कि देश में आयात केवल निर्यात को बढ़ाने के लिये ही नहीं किया जा रहा है बल्कि यह देश में उपभोग के लिए भी हो रहा है;

(च) यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है;